

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/886,289

Examiner

J. Pasterczyk

Applicant(s)

BURATTIN ET AL.

Art Unit

1755

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment of 1/30/04, telephonic interview of 3/5/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 3/5/04
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

  
Mark L. Bell  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 1700

1. This Office action is in response to the amendment filed 1/30/04 and telephonic interview of 3/5/04 and refers to the Office action mailed 7/31/03.

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR

1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

**In the claims** (referring to applicants' latest version of the claims filed 1/30/04): in claim 12, on p. 6 of the amendment, to the right of the structure insert --(I)--.

In claim 15, p. 10 of the amendment, l. 2, change "has" to --having-- and "comprising" to --comprises--; in l. 4, change "tris(2-carboxymethyl)phosphine" to --tris(2-carboxyethyl)phosphine-- and "the" to --a--; in l. 5 change "tris(3-carboxyethyl)phosphine" to --tris(3-carboxypropyl)phosphine--; in l. 6 change "trimethylammoniophenyl)phosphine" to --trimethylammonium)phosphine-- and change "the" to --a--; in l. 7 change "the" to --a--; in l. 8 change "the" to --a--; in l. 10 change "the" to --a--.

In claim 14, p. 8 of the amendment, l. 2, after "substituents:" insert -- -OH, ammonium cations  $N(R)_4^+$  wherein the radicals R, which are identical or different, are each a hydrogen atom or an alkyl radical having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, --; in l. 3 before "the hydrophilic" insert --or--; in l. 5 change "or" to a comma; in l. 6-8 delete "ammonium cations  $-N(R)_4^+$  wherein the radicals R, which are identical or different, are each a hydrogen atom or an alkyl radical having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms"; in l. 8 before "cations" insert --and--; in l. 11 delete "and -OH" and change " $Ar_3$ " to -- $Ar_3$ --; in l. 12

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after "substituents:" insert -- -OH, ammonium cations  $N(R)_4^+$  wherein the radicals R, which are identical or different, are each a hydrogen atom or an alkyl radical having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, --; in l. 13 after "halogen atoms," insert -or--; delete all of lines 16-17; in l. 20 delete "and -OH"; in l. 21 change " $Ar_3$ " to -- $Ar_3$ --. On p. 9 of the amendment, l. 3, after "substituents:" insert -- -OH --; begin l. 4 with --and--; in l. 6 change " $-N(R)_4^+$ " to -- $N(R)_4^+$ --; in l. 11 delete "and -OH"; in the last line change "or" to a comma. On p. 10 of the amendment, l. 3, change "heterocyclic radical" to --heterocycle--; in l. 4 insert --of III-- after "both phosphorus atoms".

3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with George Lesmes, Esq., on 3/4/04.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the above examiner's amendments overcome the remaining formal rejections in the case. As applicants point out, Huser uses preformed nickel cyanide species instead of adding cyanide to a nickel hydroxide mixture, and Kuntz fails to disclose any working examples of the use of nickel hydroxide, instead focusing on use of nickel chloride hexahydrate or neutral nickel diene species.

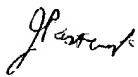
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to J. Pasterczyk whose telephone number is 571-272-1375. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9 to 5:30.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Bell, can be reached at 571-272-1362. The fax number for the organization where this case is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



J. Pasterczyk

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3/4/04



Mark L. Bell  
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